News From The States COUNTDOWN '24

Thanks for being here and <u>supporting our work</u>.

By Robin Opsahl, *Iowa Capital Dispatch*

As President Joe Biden holds events ahead of Democratic nominating contests across the country, his focus is already on a likely 2020 rematch against former President Donald Trump.

- <u>Biden overwhelmingly won</u> the Democrats' first recognized contest of 2024 in South Carolina, thanking SC Democrats for helping "set us on the path to winning the presidency again and making Donald Trump a loser again."
- Earlier in the week, the president <u>celebrated with members of the United Auto Workers</u> <u>union</u> in Michigan, a state expected to play a key role in the November general election.
- But supporters were not the only people who came out to Biden's Michigan appearance: about <u>200 protesters demonstrated at the event</u>, calling for ceasefire in Israel's military campaign in Gaza against Hamas.

TOP IMPACT What to read this week

Biden rallies Democrats in Las Vegas: 'Imagine the nightmare' if Trump reelected



(Photo by April Corbin Girnus/Nevada Current)

With a primary win all but inevitable, President Joe Biden used his Sunday appearance in Las Vegas's Historic Westside to rally his most vocal supporters in a battleground state that delivered for him four years ago.

In a roughly 30-minute speech at Pearson Community Center, Biden mentioned Tuesday's presidential preference primary only in passing, instead using his time to highlight the achievements of his first term and scourge former President Donald Trump, who appears poised to secure the Republican nomination over challenger Nikki Haley. | Nevada Current

Former Montana Supreme Court justice joins other top judges in support of keeping Trump off ballot



(Photo by Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images)

Another notable Montana leader has joined a group of retired state Supreme Court justices throughout the country to urge the United States Supreme Court to uphold the decision by the Colorado Supreme Court to disallow former President Donald J. Trump from appearing as a presidential candidate on the 2024 ballot.

Retired Montana Supreme Court Justice James C. Nelson has joined with six other retired justices in an *amicus curiae* or "friend of the court" brief, saying that state courts have been determining eligibility of candidates since America was founded, and that the court in Colorado was merely exercising its proper role. | <u>Daily Montanan</u>

BIG PICTURE *Election coverage* across the country



(Photo: Jeniffer Solis/Nevada Current)

- Caucus-caused confusion continues as early voting is underway in NV's presidential primary | Nevada Current
- Federal court rejects long-shot attempt to remove Trump from SC's primary ballots | <u>SC Daily Gazette</u>
- Here's how to vote in Texas' March 5 primary elections | Texas Tribune
- Haley touts January fundraising haul ahead of first rally in Super Tuesday state | Fox News

Courts

• Fulton 19 update: DA subpoenaed, Willis admits 'relationship,' federal trial delayed | Georgia Recorder

- Trump federal election interference trial delayed pending appeal | News from the States
- Republicans want to make it easier to challenge election results in court | Arizona Mirror
- Oregon Supreme Court bars Republican senators who participated in walkout from reelection | Oregon Capital Chronicle
- Transparency group moves to end ballot language dispute, drop lawsuit against Arkansas AG | Arkansas Advocate

Voting

- Federal appeals court won't rehear closely watched Arkansas redistricting case | Arkansas Advocate
- Republican lawsuits challenge mail ballot deadlines. Could they upend voting across the country? | Associated Press
- Michigan redistricting commission meets court deadline for new metro Detroit state House maps | Michigan Advance
- New redistricting lawsuit asks North Carolina courts to say fair elections are a constitutional right, and that gerrymandering violates it | NC Newsline
- Tribal citizens in Nevada can now vote with EASE | Nevada Current
- North Dakota Dems hope to turn heads and a few seats in 2024 | North Dakota Monitor
- Alaska House votes to advance bill that would trim state voter rolls more quickly | Alaska Beacon

Election security

- The 2024 primary elections are confusing voters and fueling distrust | New York Times
- N.M. House panel wants disclaimers on AI and deepfakes in political campaigns | Source New Mexico
- Deepfakes, dollars and 'deep state' fears: Inside the minds of election officials heading into 2024 | Cyberscoop
- Election distrust in Cochise County runs deep, and change is slow to come | Arizona Mirror
- Cyber chiefs confident 2024 election will be 'most secure' in history | Politico

COMING UP Calendar of events



- Feb. 6 and 8, 2024, NEVADA | The Nevada primary will take place Feb. 6, but Nevada Republicans have the option to caucus on Feb. 8.
- Feb. 8. 2024, Washington, D.C. | The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments on the Colorado Supreme Court decision keeping Trump off the state's primary ballot.
- Feb. 24, 2024, SOUTH CAROLINA | The South Carolina Republican primary.

Follow state-level coverage of Election 2024 anytime at <u>News From The States</u>. Send tips and thoughts to <u>ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com</u>, and follow them on Twitter <u>@robinlopsahl</u>

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